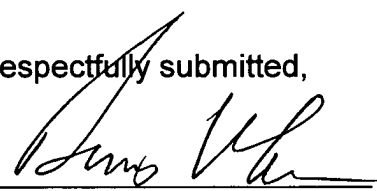


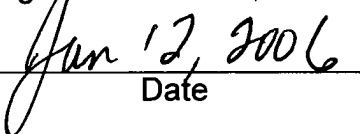
REMARKS

In the Office Action, the claims of the present application were grouped into three groups under a restriction requirement. Group I corresponds to claims 1-19; Group II corresponds to claims 20-39; and Group III corresponds to claims 40-58. Applicants provisionally elect Group I for examination corresponding to 1-19, and respectfully traverse the restriction between Groups I and III. Applicants agree with the Examiner that Groups I, II and III are separate and patentably distinct from each other. However, since a proper search of Group I will require searching classifications of art as in Group III, the Office has not demonstrated the existence of undue search burden. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request combining the claims of Groups I and III into a single grouping for examination.

Eastman Chemical Company
P.O. Box 511
Kingsport, Tennessee 37662
Phone: (423) 229-6189
FAX: (423) 229-1239


Respectfully submitted,

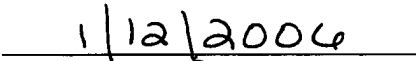

Dennis V. Carmen
Registration No. 35,007


Date

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 CFR 1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Mail Stop Amendment, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.


Karen L. Taylor


Date